

57-16

11:20 a.m.

November 25, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
 MR. BELMONT
 MR. MOHR
 MR. CONRAD
 MR. DE LOACH
 MR. EVANS
 MR. ROSEN
 MR. SULLIVAN

I called Mr. Walter Jenkins at the White House and advised him that we had killed the editorial in the Post. I said the matter had been discussed with Mr. Friendly, the managing editor.

I further advised Mr. Jenkins that Mr. Friendly had said it had been discussed; that they did not think the report ought to be released by the Attorney General or anyone in the Department of Justice; that it should be released either by the President or some distinguished jurist who would review it.

Mr. Jenkins asked what I thought of this, and I said I thought we ought to see how the report shapes up; as it looked at the moment, I thought it probably would be better to have it released by the President; that yesterday the President felt it should be kept in the Department of Justice; but from the attitude of Friendly, his feeling is that in the country there is so much feeling against the Attorney General it might not be accepted as the complete and true picture notwithstanding the fact the investigation was made by the FBI. I said, in view of the Post's position which they naturally would have, it seemed to me the reports we will submit will have all the exhibits and could very readily be made available to the press by either the Attorney General or the President.

Mr. Jenkins said he presumed the report will be pretty conclusive; almost speak for itself. I said it would; that the main one on the assassination we can probably have ready within the next twenty-four hours but I

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Section 1

Memorandum for Messrs. Tolson, Belmont, Mohr, November 28, 1963
Conrad, DeLoach, Evans, Rosen, Sullivan

5747

I think we should hold that until we get the report on the Oswald situation; in that case it may be a situation where he has been made a martyr by being shot by Ruby. I stated that I am aiming for a deadline of Wednesday of this week for a report on both.

I also advised Mr. Jenkins that we are getting in touch with District Attorney Wade in Dallas and offering any assistance and all cooperation which we understand he will give us. I said there can be no doubt at all from a technical point of view that Oswald bought the gun from a mail-order house in Chicago; handwriting identified; came to a post office box in Dallas maintained by his mother; had the gun at his house; his wife admitted gun was there but couldn't identify gun; but on morning of the assassination, the men who picked Oswald up to bring him to work said Oswald carried a package wrapped in brown paper; he asked Oswald what was in the package and Oswald said they were curtain rods the lady had given him as he was going to decorate his own house with them; and the paper was found in the bulleting, together with the gun and three shells. I told Mr. Jenkins that Oswald had four shells and only fired three shells; that we have one complete bullet found on the stretcher on which the President was carried into the hospital, which apparently fell out of the President's head; that the other two bullets were pretty well broken up but sufficiently complete to allow us to identify them as being the three fired by this particular gun.

Mr. Jenkins stated this is very conclusive. He said he would advise President Johnson about it and that the President will be very pleased.

Very truly yours,

J. E. H.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 5:31 P.M.
DATE 11/25/63
BY JY